

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION**

**Call to Order:** Chair Elsie Arntzen, on February 12, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 405 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Elsie Arntzen, Chair (R)  
Sen. Gordon Vance, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Dick Barrett (D)  
Sen. Dee Brown (R)  
Sen. Edward Buttrey (R)  
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)  
Sen. Sue Malek (D)  
Sen. Scott Sales (R)  
Sen. Diane Sands (D)  
Sen. Janna Taylor (R)  
Sen. Fred Thomas (R) (arrived after roll call)  
Sen. Lea Whitford (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Charlene Devine, Committee Secretary  
Leanne Kurtz, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 296, 2/10/2015; SB 297, 2/10/2015; SB 290, 2/9/2015; SB 278, 2/6/2015; HB 295, 2/9/2015

Presentation by Rob Eaton, director, Amtrak Government Affairs

00:00:05 Chair Arntzen

**Presentation:**

00:02:30 Rob Eaton, director, Amtrak Government Affairs (AGA)

00:03:24 Sen. Thomas entered the hearing.

**Questions from Committee Members:**

00:09:12 Sen. Brown

00:10:22 Mr. Eaton, AGA

00:10:52 Sen. Barrett

00:12:50 Mr. Eaton

00:14:03 Sen. Malek

00:14:31 Mr. Eaton

00:14:48 Sen. Whitford

00:15:52 Mr. Eaton

00:17:09 Sen. Whitford

00:17:39 Chair Arntzen

00:18:24 Vice Chair Vance assumed the role as chair.

**HEARING ON SB 296**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:18:52 Sen. Elsie Arntzen (R), SD 26, opened the hearing on SB 296, Reduce time period vehicle may be abandoned before removal.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:20:31 Terry Morrison, president, Montana Tow Truck Association (MTTA)

00:21:19 Jim Dusenberry, Montana Tow Truck Association

00:22:23 Bob Gilbert, Montana Tow Truck Association

00:23:55 Joanne Blyton, Billings Towing

00:25:16 Jerry Williams, executive director, Montana Protective Police Association (MPPA)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:25:52 Sen. Buttrey

00:27:22 Mr. Morrison, MTTA

00:27:28 Sen. Barrett  
00:28:06 Mr. Williams, MPPA  
00:28:39 Sen. Whitford  
00:30:02 Sen. Arntzen  
00:30:44 Sen. Brown  
00:31:57 Sen. Arntzen  
00:32:06 Sen. Brown  
00:32:16 Leanne Kurtz, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
00:32:29 Vice Chair Vance  
00:32:35 Sen. Brown  
00:33:32 Sen. Arntzen  
00:33:42 Leanne Kurtz, LSD  
00:33:55 Sen. Taylor  
00:34:09 Sen. Arntzen  
00:34:24 Mr. Williams

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:35:31 Sen. Arntzen

**HEARING ON SB 297**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:36:45 Sen. Elsie Arntzen (R), SD 26, opened the hearing on SB 297, Prohibit third party dispatch related to tow-trucks.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:37:51 Terry Morrison, president, Montana Tow Truck Association (MTTA)  
00:40:26 Bob Gilbert, Montana Tow Truck Association (MTTA)  
00:43:49 Gary Becker, district commander and captain, Montana Highway Patrol (MHP)  
00:48:35 Joanne Blyton, Billings Towing  
00:49:34 Jerry Williams, Montana Protective Police Association  
00:50:18 Jim Dusenberry, Montana Tow Truck Association

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:51:06 Sen. Sales  
00:53:24 Mr. Becker, MHP  
00:54:13 Sen. Buttrey  
00:54:22 Sen. Barrett

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

February 12, 2015

PAGE 4 of 7

00:57:51 Mr. Becker  
00:58:02 Mr. Morrison, MTTA  
00:59:23 Sen. Brown  
01:01:01 Mr. Becker  
01:01:59 Sen. Buttrey  
01:04:52 Mr. Morrison  
01:05:14 Sen. Sales  
01:05:38 Mr. Becker  
01:06:52 Sen. Sales  
01:07:15 Sen. Malek  
01:09:07 Mr. Gilbert, MTTA  
01:11:02 Sen. Sands  
01:12:01 Mr. Gilbert  
01:12:12 Sen. Barrett  
01:12:55 Mr. Gilbert

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:14:05 Sen. Arntzen  
01:18:54 Sen. Arntzen resumed the roll as Chair.

**HEARING ON SB 290**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:19:08 Sen. Jim Keane (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on SB 290, Apply private motor carrier safety standards to certain publicly owned vehicles.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:21:40 Spook Stang, vice president, Motor Carriers of Montana (MCM)  
01:23:26 Bob Gilbert, Montana School Bus Contractors Association

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:26:38 Sandy Youngbauer, commissioner, Fergus County  
01:27:23 Leonard Lundby, Montana Fire Alliance (MFA)

**Informational Testimony:**

01:29:36 Duane Williams, administrator, Motor Carrier Division, Department of Transportation (MDT)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:30:00 Sen. Brown  
01:30:20 Mr. Williams, MDT

01:30:46 Sen. Barrett  
01:31:09 Mr. Williams  
01:31:23 Sen. Sales  
01:31:34 Mr. Williams  
01:31:44 Sen. Buttrey  
01:31:58 Mr. Lundby, MFA  
01:32:31 Sen. Buttrey  
01:32:44 Sen. Brown  
01:32:56 Chair Arntzen  
01:32:59 Sen. Brown  
01:33:08 Mr. Stang, MCM  
01:33:51 Chair Arntzen  
01:34:03 Sen. Keane

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:35:37 Sen. Keane

**HEARING ON SB 278**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:36:02 Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D), SD 40, opened the hearing on SB 278, Revise pedestrian laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:36:45 Melinda Barnes, executive director, Bike Walk Montana (BWM)  
[EXHIBIT\(his32a01\)](#)

01:39:49 Jane Amdahl, American Association of Retired Persons of Montana (AARP)  
01:41:57 Linda Gryczan, self  
01:42:51 Mary Cheryl Beeby, Safe Routes to School  
01:44:26 Elisa Prescott, Bike Walk Montana  
01:45:25 Bob Gilbert, Montana School Contractors Bus Association

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

01:46:30 Dwane Kailey, Department of Transportation (MDT)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:46:55 Sen. Sales  
01:47:15 Ms. Barnes, BWM  
01:47:56 Chair Arntzen  
01:48:06 Mr. Kailey, MDT

01:48:13 Sen. Barrett

01:48:51 Ms. Barnes

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:49:30 Sen. Kaufmann

**HEARING ON HB 295**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:50:05 Rep. Carolyn Pease-Lopez (D), HD 42, opened the hearing on HB 295, Revise law for signage warning drivers of a school bus stop ahead.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:51:02 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana

01:53:15 Bob Gilbert, Montana School Bus Contractors Association (MSBCA)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

01:54:16 Dwane Kailey, MDT

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:54:38 Sen. Sands

01:55:06 Mr. Gilbert, MSBCA

01:55:51 Chair Arntzen

01:56:14 Mr. Kailey, MDT

01:56:43 Sen. Brown

01:57:31 Rep. Pease-Lopez

01:57:58 Mr. Kailey

01:58:31 Sen. Brown

01:58:39 Chair Arntzen

01:58:48 Mr. Kailey

01:59:00 Sen. Barrett

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:59:27 Rep. Pease- Lopez

02:00:07 Chair Arntzen

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 5:00 P.M.

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Charlene Devine, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([his32aad.pdf](#))